

Selectmen's Meeting MINUTES Bristol Consolidated School, February 9th, 2022

Selectmen Present: Chad Hanna, Kristine Poland, Paul Yates. Also present: Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Rachel Bizarro (Town Clerk); Nate Poole (Lincoln County News).

Chair Hanna called the Board to order at 6.30 pm, followed by recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Poland moved, seconded by Yates, that the draft minutes of the meeting held on February 2^{nd} be accepted as presented. Motion passed, 3 - 0.

<u>Town Warrant</u>: The Clerk asked to address Article 12 on behalf of the Harbor Committee. She noted that the Harbormasters' stipend had not been increased for six years, and that the bookkeeping required in adding \$2 per mooring to their stipend was such that she felt it would be simpler to pay them an increased, fixed stipend and do away with the per-mooring fee. In agreement, Poland moved that Article 12 should be amended to pay the Harbormasters a fixed stipend of \$3,000 per year. This was seconded by Yates and the motion passed, 3 - 0.

It was noted that the state had changed the maximum rate of interest that can be charged on post-due property taxes, to 4%. The number in Article 31 would be changed accordingly.

With these two changes, Hanna moved to accept the Warrant and send for printing. Poland seconded and the motion passed, 3 - 0.

Selectmen's Report and Financials: Hall circulated a draft Report for review and asked members to send him their suggestions by the end of the week. Bizarro is working on the Financials and will send a draft shortly.

Regular Business:

The Board reviewed and signed Warrants for Payroll and Accounts Payable for the Town, Fire and Rescue Department, Parks Department and the Bristol-South Bristol Transfer Station.

Under Correspondence, the Town Administrator noted that a further revision of the proposed CLC Ambulance Interlocal Agreement, incorporating suggestions from attorney Hylie West, had been circulated and would be reviewed at a CLCA Board meeting on Thursday 10th. Hall will bring the final Agreement to the next meeting.

Hall also presented a legal opinion from attorney West covering the deed restriction on liquor sales at the Pemaquid Beach Park. The question had arisen because of requests from caterers to serve alcoholic drinks at wedding receptions; there was no intention of the Parks Department to allow any kind of retail liquor sales. West's opinion suggested that the 30 year limit on restrictive covenants had expired, and in addition the company which made the gift of land with the restrictive covenant was no longer in existence and no successor entity had standing to enforce such a covenant. However, as chair Hanna pointed out, the operative restriction on the Town would likely not be the deed, but the vote of Town Meeting in 1959 to accept the land which specified the Town's acceptance of the land with the deed conditions made explicit. The Town could therefore seek to change the rule against liquor sales only by a vote of Town Meeting to overturn its own 1959 vote. Members thought that this would not be appropriate at this time, and that keeping the status quo was preferable even if it discouraged a number of wedding reception events.

The Chair gave Notice of forthcoming meetings:

- Parks and Recreation Commission, Tuesday, February 15th, 6.00 pm at the Ellingwood Information Center.
- Select Board, Wednesday February 16th, 6.30 pm at the Bristol Town Office.
- Comprehensive Plan Committee: Tuesday, February 22nd, 7.00 pm by Zoom. To receive a Zoom access code, notify the Town Office by 4.00 pm on February 22nd.
- Harbor Committee: Thursday, February 24th, 5.30 pm at the Town Office.

<u>Executive Session</u>: Chair Hanna moved, seconded by Yates, to enter Executive Session to consider a personnel matter, pursuant to M.R.S. 1, chapter 13, section 405.6.A, to consider a personnel matter. Motion passed, 3 - 0, and the Board entered Executive Session at 7.07 pm.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7.13 pm, and the Chair reported that he will write to the complainant and indicate that the matter was discussed this day in Executive Session, and that no further action will be taken.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 7.14 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Hall Town Administrator